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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/911,034

07/23/2001

Shyamal Prasad

PI2677-PUSBN

3478

7590

06/30/2005

Associate General Counsel - IPR &  
Assistan Secretary  
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, BRIAN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2661

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/911,034

Applicant(s)

PRASAD, ET AL.

Examiner

Brian D. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/18/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claim 22 is objected to because of the following informalities: it is suggested to replace “herein” with --wherein--.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the routing mechanism" in lines 7 and 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. In line 1, after “node”, it is suggested to insert --(STP)-- (see claim 5, line 5).

Claim 9, line 3, “further” is unclear because no step has been mentioned before the following described steps. It is suggested to delete the word “further”. In lines 9 and 16, “in response to said determination” is unclear because the determining step(s) produces two outcomes. It is not clear which outcome is responded to. “said determination” in line 16 is unclear because it is not known if the applicant is refereeing to the determination in line 6 or line 13.

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Claim 12 recites the limitation "said product based communication network" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is suggested to change "product" to --packet--.

Claim 13 recites the limitation "said point code" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 16 has the same problem as claim 9.

Claim 20 recites the limitation "said point code" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-4, 6-13, and 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller et al (6,324,183) in view of Oguchi (2002/0023152).

Regarding claims 1, 4, 6-10, 13, 16-17, and 20, Miller discloses a signal transfer point node (see 1500 in figures 15 and 16) within a Signaling System 7 (SS7) telecommunications network serving a particular local switch (see, for example, SSP in figure 1) and further connected to a packet communications network, (the Internet) comprising: a first interface (SS7 interface in figures 15 and 16) for receiving a SS7 signal from the particular local switch, the SS7 signal having a destination address within the SS7 telecommunications network. Miller

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discloses, for example, in figure 16 that the STP 1500 can route message from one node in SS7 to another node in the SS7 or in the IP network. Miller does not specifically disclose the use of routing tables to route the message. However, the use of routing table is well known. Oguchi discloses the use of routing tables (see paragraph 0175). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the routing tables as taught by Oguchi in the system of Miller in order to route the message to its appropriate destination.

Regarding claims 2, 11, and 18, Miller discloses a second interface for communicating packet data with the packet communications network (see interface with N1 and N2 in figure 16); and an interworking function module connected to the second interface for encapsulating the SS7 signal within a packet and for transmitting the packet over the second interface (see encapsulation, for example, in claim 15).

Regarding claims 3, 12, and 19, Miller discloses the interworking function module utilizes Message Transfer Part 3 - User Adaptation Layer (M3UA) protocol to communicate the SS7 signal over the packet communications network (see the use of the message transfer part levels 1-3 in the abstract).

6. Claims 5, 14-15, and 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller in view of Oguchi as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Dougherty et al (6,831,902).

Regarding claim 5, 14-15, and 21-22, Miller in view of Oguchi does not specifically disclose the use of an address server. However, this feature is well known in the art. Dougherty discloses the use of an address server (see col. 11, line 4). Therefore, it would have been obvious

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to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the address server as taught by Dougherty in the system of Miller in order to provide the address when needed.

***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

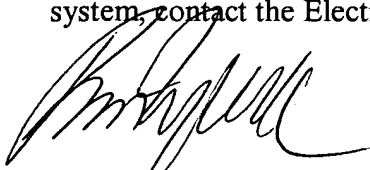
Haga (6,366,576), Sprague (2003/0161301), and Brendes (2001/0049730).

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian D. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3084.

The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-6:00 Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



6/25/05

**BRIAN NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**